

On May 29, the UT Extension Hawkins County office will be conducting a meeting on how to correctly fill out the Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program (TAEP) Grant Application. The meeting will be held at the Hawkins County Cattlemen's Association building beginning at 6:00 p.m. Wendy Lofton of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA), who coordinates the Livestock Equipment and Handling Facilities Cost Share Program, will be present to answer questions and assist producers in completing grant applications. The Tennessee Agriculture Enhancement Program is designed to support agriculture in Tennessee by providing cost share funds to producers for long term investments in their livestock and farming operations. These cost share programs help producers maximize farm profits, adapt to current market situations and prepare for the future. In addition, this program also allows producers to make positive economic impacts in their communities. Both of these programs are open to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or religion.

The 2008-2009 Producer Cost Share Programs will include: Livestock Equipment and Handling Facilities, Livestock Feed Storage, Cattle Genetics, Hay Storage, Grain Storage, Producer Diversification and Feeder Cattle Incentive.

Producers who plan to attend the TAEP grant meetings are encouraged to contact the UT Extension Hawkins County office at 423-272-7241 and pre-register. The HCCA building is located in Rogersville just off Highway 11W on Stanley Valley Road.